

## Rural District of Maidstone

## Annual Report for the Year, 1961

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE  
RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F. H. M. DUMMER,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.





MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

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Maidstone Rural District Council

Public Health Committee

Chairman

Colonel Sir George W. Heron, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Members

Mr. R. A. Coates.	Brig. D. C. McClure.
Mr. P. A. E. Devenish.	Mr. W. Moore.
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Mr. M. B. Winch.	Mr. J. F. Towner.

Public Health Officers of the Rural District Council:-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:- F. H. M. Dummer, M.B.,  
Ch.B., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:- G. W. White, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of Meat  
and Other Foods, and  
Smoke Inspectors' Certificate.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR:- F. O. Elliott, M.A.P.H.I.,  
Public Health Inspectors'  
Certificate,  
Certificate of Inspector of Meat  
and Other Foods.

CLERK TO THE DEPARTMENT:- Mrs. C. A. Knight.

SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL  
OFFICER OF HEALTH:- Miss H. Wood.



RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

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13, Tonbridge Road,  
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26, Tonbridge Road,  
Maidstone,  
Kent.  
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To: The Chairman and Members of Maidstone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District of Maidstone.

Once again there are several outstanding features of this Report, the principal one being the low infantile mortality rate of 17.42, which is well below the national average of 21.4 per thousand live births. This is a most satisfactory state of affairs, and indicates, although small figures are involved, something of the standard of child care and of the maternal and child welfare services operating in your District. Along with this should be mentioned the fact that there were no maternal deaths in 1961.

The next major feature of the Report is the fact that for the second year in succession there were no deaths due to tuberculosis. The position in tuberculosis has changed very radically in the last decade, and we are now reaching the stage where, although new cases are being discovered in relatively large numbers throughout the country, the outlook for these patients is good. This position can only be maintained through the considerable amount of work which is done in following up contacts of cases, and in making a diagnosis at the earliest possible stage. With the advantage of new drugs, and the easing of pressure on sanatoria beds, the state of this disease is most positively related to this factor of early diagnosis.

Along with this we must remember the increasing amount of work of the Mass Radiography Service, which, to be successful, demands a large public response, so that the state of the community health vis-a-vis tuberculosis can be checked at regular intervals.

Another encouraging trend in 1961 has been the increasing number of people who have taken advantage, both for themselves and for their children, of the free facilities offered in the protection against poliomyelitis. It is far too early yet to say that this disease has become a rarity, but it is a pleasure to note that for the fourth year in succession no case of poliomyelitis has occurred in your District.

The introduction of oral vaccine provides us with the best weapon we have yet had in the attack on this disease, and there surely can be very few reasons now for anyone to object to the protection offered. Although at the present moment only those up to the age of 40 are offered these facilities, if everyone of this age group took advantage of oral vaccine, there would be very little necessity indeed to extend the protection any further in the community.

Along with this feature I would mention the increasing number of children who are being immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough. This fact should be remembered in the light of recent small, but virulent, outbreaks of diphtheria throughout the country. We can only protect our local district by maintaining a strong community barrier through immunisation.



There was little change in the total number of cancer deaths in 1961, being 52 as compared with 51 in 1960. The distribution however has changed somewhat. Cancer of the stomach remains at the same figure, but more females were involved this year than last. Cancer of the lungs has risen from 11 to 17.

There can be little doubt in anyone's mind now, following the reports made, of the association of heavy cigarette smoking and cancer of the lung. The result of this publicity, however, has not been very encouraging, and it would appear that the real hope in this disease from the smoking angle, is to discourage youngsters from taking up this habit. This is something with which, no doubt, the schools can help, but it is primarily a duty of parents, and it is hoped that they will help us in this respect in any future campaign.

In the pages which follow you will be able to read of the wide scope of the public health services operating in your area. This is an increasing work, and entails a great deal of vigilance on the part of your officers.

I would like to record my appreciation of the splendid work carried out by your Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. G. W. White, who has given me every co-operation throughout a busy year. He has been ably assisted by Mr. F. O. Elliott, whose work fully deserves commendation.

The functions of a Health Department can never be carried out in isolation, and depends for its efficiency on the co-operation of other departments. It is a pleasure for me to record my thanks to all members of the staff, in particular the Clerk of the Council, the Engineer and Surveyor, the Treasurer and the Housing Manager.

I have also had the good fortune to have an enthusiastic Health Committee, and I am most grateful to the Chairman and Members of that Committee who have given me every support throughout the year, as also indeed, have all the Members of the Council.

I have the Honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. H. M. DUMMER.

Medical Officer of Health.

29th May, 1962.



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34,487
Estimated resident population (1961)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,990
Number of inhabited houses (according to rate books)										
at the end of 1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,919
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£225,138
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£885

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		Male	Female	Total
Live Births ..	..	149	138	287
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	..	crude		14.35
		corrected		14.49
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..		4.52
		Male	Female	Total
Stillbirths ..	..	2	1	3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	..			10.34
Total live and still births ..	..	..	..	290
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) ..	..	4	1	5
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ..	..	..	..	17.42
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	..	..	..	14.59
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	76.92
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ..	..	..	..	10.45
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ..	..	..	..	10.45
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ..	..	..	..	20.68
Maternal mortality (including abortion) ..	..	..	..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ..	..	..	..	-
		Male	Female	Total
Deaths ..	..	171	134	305
Death rate per 1,000 population ..	..	crude		15.25
		corrected		10.67
Death rate for England and Wales ..	..	..	..	12.0



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### School Health Service

The School Health Service, with school inspections and clinics, the Maternity and Child Welfare Service and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, are now administered by the Kent County Council, and are controlled by the County Medical Officer.

### Hospitals

The hospitals are administered by the Mid Kent Hospital Management Committee and the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The services of the consultant staff are available at the West Kent General Hospital, and the Kent County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital. Available also is Preston Hall Hospital and use is made by patients from the Maidstone area of the hospitals in the Tunbridge Wells area, particularly Pembury and the Kent and Sussex Hospital.

Additional beds are in use at Linton Hospital.

There is now no infectious diseases hospital in this area, and cases in the meantime have to be sent primarily to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, which entails a fairly long journey. Although representation has been made to the Regional Hospital Board on this question, there is very little likelihood of improved facilities for infectious diseases being available for this area before the new district hospital - scheduled for after 1970 - is built in Maidstone. This will, it is hoped, include a wing for infectious diseases.

### Domestic Help Service

This service is administered by the County Council and is of great value in providing care for aged and disabled patients, and thus relieving pressure on the available hospital beds. I often find that by the judicious use of this service, elderly people are given the advantage of essential domestic help, thereby tiding them over a difficulty which, in other circumstances, would undoubtedly require hospitalisation.

It is surprising to find such a large number of elderly people with no near relatives, and often, I am sorry to say, relatives who are unwilling to help out at this dependent stage of life.



INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-45	46-65	66 & over	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	5	5	-	-	-	-	11
Whooping cough	1	4	2	10	2	-	1	-	-	20
Measles	7	75	101	264	47	3	3	-	-	500
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	1	6
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	3
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>543</b>

Due to the biennial outbreak of measles in 1961, the number of cases notified of infectious diseases rose very steeply from 83 in 1960, to 543 in 1961.

Of these, the vast majority were measles, with 20 cases of whooping cough, 11 of scarlet fever, and very few cases of other diseases.

Once again there were no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.



INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

PARISH DISTRIBUTION

	Barming	Bearsted	Boughton Monchelsea	East Farleigh	West Farleigh	Hunton	Linton	Loose	Marden	Nettlestead	Otham	Staplehurst	Teston	Yalding	TOTALS
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	7	-	1	11
Whooping cough	-	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	11	-	-	-	-	3	20
Measles	5	46	12	45	7	3	47	38	175	3	6	62	7	44	500
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	6
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3
Erysipelas	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	5	50	12	46	7	7	50	40	188	4	7	70	7	50	543



INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Scarlet fever	-	1	3	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Whooping cough	1	2	9	2	1	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	20
Measles	3	34	29	173	102	103	29	12	2	2	7	4	500
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>543</b>

As will be seen from the above table, the outbreak of measles tended to be extended for a rather longer period this year than in 1959 - the last year of biennial outbreak. The relative freedom from infection, however, in the late summer and Autumn, is well seen in the above table.



## POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION, 1961

The following table shows the number of injections given in the various priority groups during the year ended 31st December, 1961.

Priority Group	2nd Injections	3rd Injections	4th Injections
1957 - 1961	288	270	-
1946 - 1956	53	158	-
1943 - 1945	14	16	-
1933 - 1942	154	150	-
1921 - 1932	494	669	-
Others School children under 12 years	7	31	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>1,309</b>

During the year 1,294 people completed a full course of three injections, and in addition 1,309 school children under the age of 12 years received a fourth boosting dose.

In all, since the scheme started, no fewer than 6,646 people up to the age of 40 have received the full course of three injections, apart from the school children already noted. This represents approximately 35 per cent of your District, but of course, one must remember that of the total population at risk, only those up to the age of 40 are, at the moment, allowed this protection. This shows an increase of 8 per cent on last year's figure, and this must be regarded as a welcome trend.

By the introduction of oral vaccine, however, we can reasonably expect that this figure, in the next few years, will be greatly exceeded. Now that this simple method of protection has been devised, there would appear to be no valid reason why the vast majority of our population should not be as fully protected as the facilities allow.

This service is free through one's general practitioner, the School Health Service, or the Clinics available from time to time through the County Council.



### WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION, 1961

The following table shows the whooping cough immunisation figures for 1961, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination)
	Primary
1961	95
1960	146
1959	17
1958	12
1957	7
1952 - 1956	16
1947 - 1951	1
TOTAL	294

Once again there has been an increase in the number of children immunised against whooping cough, the figure being 294 as compared with 241 in 1960.

As I have already pointed out, whooping cough can be a serious illness in infants, and every advantage should be taken of the facilities for free immunisation.



## SMALLPOX VACCINATION, 1961

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1961, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	NUMBER VACCINATED	NUMBER RE-VACCINATED
Under 1	201	-
1	24	-
2 to 4	4	-
5 to 14	3	-
15 or over	1	3
TOTALS	233	3

Here too, there has been an increase in the total number of people receiving primary vaccination, although the increase is small, i.e. 11 more people received protection in 1961 than in 1960.

The number of re-vaccinated is probably not a true figure at all, as many revaccinations are not recorded.

These figures do not take into account the extraordinary public demand for vaccination following the outbreak in another part of the country in December 1961. The reflection of this demand will no doubt appear in next year's Report.

I would repeat my advice in last year's Report, that all people travelling abroad should ensure that their certificates of vaccination are valid well in advance of making the journey. Indeed, this advice is underlined by the requirement now in force in most European countries that adequate evidence of recent vaccination must be shown.



## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1961

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation figures for 1961, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)	
	Primary	Reinforcing
1961	96	-
1960	146	5
1959	21	18
1958	13	8
1957	8	5
1952 - 1956	26	145
1947 - 1951	5	30
TOTALS	315	211

It is a pleasure to be able to record an increase in the number of children receiving both primary immunisation and the reinforcing injection against diphtheria.

As Committee Members will know, I have spoken throughout the year on the necessity for maintaining a state of immunity against diphtheria as the only real protection towards warding off an outbreak of this disease.

The above figures indicate that advantage has been taken of the free facilities that are offered, and this is a position which we must strive to maintain.



## FOOD POISONING

In 1961 there were only three cases of food poisoning, as compared with 19 cases in 1960.

In two of these cases the diagnosis was made on clinical grounds alone, and bacteriological examinations failed to produce a positive organism.

The third case, in which the organism was discovered to be *Salmonella Brandenburg*, occurred in a food handler. This man was offered alternative employment within the same business restricting him from handling food. The excretion of bacilli went on for several months, but no secondary cases arose in this instance.

During last year, in order to minimise any environmental cause for food poisoning, your refuse collection service arranged an extra collection from food premises for the summer months. I think this was a very valuable service, and it meant that as far as food premises were concerned clearance was effected within a reasonable time, and a possible hazard to food hygiene was removed.

As I have pointed out before, the real standard to be achieved in food hygiene in food shops and catering establishments, is one which is largely in the hands of the public. The consumer is, after all, the final arbiter of standard, and there are indications that this is becoming realised.



## TUBERCULOSIS

I am indebted to Dr. D. L. Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following details of the number of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures related to the area of the Chest Clinic, which corresponds with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourne R.D., and Malling R.D.

(a) Number of contacts seen during 1961, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis .. .. .. .. .. 548

(b) Number of contacts examined during 1961 of cases notified prior to 1961 .. .. .. .. .. 390

(c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis .. 4

(d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis .. 7

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AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15 years	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 35 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 55 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56 - 65 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66 and over	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	6	2	1	-	-	-	-	-

For the second year in succession no deaths from either pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis were recorded. The number of new cases remains the same at 9.

From the figures given above, however, it will be seen that a considerable amount of work has been done in the tracing of contacts, which is an essential aspect of preventive work in the tuberculosis service.

Although we are still finding these new cases, the mortality rate nationally has dropped very considerably, and provided early diagnosis is made, the chances of eventual full recovery are very good indeed.



## CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer in the Maidstone Rural District during the past ten years is given below:-

1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
1953	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
1954	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
1955	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65
1956	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
1958	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
1959	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51
1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52

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Deaths from cancer in 1961, distributed according to sites:

Site	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of stomach .. ..	2	4	6
Cancer of lung, bronchus	14	3	17
Cancer of breast .. ..	-	5	5
Cancer of uterus .. ..	-	-	-
Other sites .. .. ..	15	9	24
TOTALS	31	21	52

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Deaths from cancer in 1961, distributed according to age groups:

Age Groups	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-
2 - 5	-	-
6 - 15	-	-
16 - 25	-	-
26 - 35	1	-
36 - 45	-	2
46 - 55	5	3
56 - 65	6	5
66 and over	19	11
TOTALS	31	21



INFANT MORTALITY, 1961

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Convulsions	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Heart disease	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Thrombosis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	3	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	5

The infant mortality rate was 17.42, as compared with 20.27 per thousand live births in 1960. The rate this year is very much lower than that for England and Wales, which, at 21.4, is itself a record low figure. Since such small numbers are involved, however, not too much significance should be attached to this comparison.

Of the 5 infants who died under the age of 12 months, prematurity was associated with 3 of them, although in only one case was extreme prematurity notified as the actual cause of death.

Once again there were no maternal deaths, and this is an indication of the very high standard of ante-natal and confinement care which is given to mothers in your District.



NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

It was found necessary during 1961 to obtain Magistrates' Orders to admit to hospital two elderly persons who were infirm and unable to care for themselves properly.

Both were admitted to Linton Hospital, and although one subsequently died, the other is still living at the hospital.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1953

It was not necessary during the year to issue any restrictive Notices under these Regulations in order to prevent the spread of infection through the handling of food.



TOTAL DEATHS, 1961

Cause	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	14	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	17
18. Coronary disease, angina	22	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	4
20. Other heart disease	11	18
21. Other circulatory disease	7	6
22. Influenza	2	-
23. Pneumonia	3	1
24. Bronchitis	9	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	4	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	42	40
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	2
34. All other accidents	2	4
35. Suicide	2	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>134</b>



DEATHS PER MONTH IN EACH PARISH

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Barming	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	7
Bearsted	4	1	3	2	2	4	1	1	2	2	6	7	35
Boughton Monchelsea	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	-	2	2	-	17
East Farleigh	3	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	1	2	12
West Farleigh	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4
Hunton	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	6
Linton	8	11	6	6	6	4	4	8	10	10	7	12	92
Loose	2	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	4	1	1	4	25
Marden	4	2	4	4	4	3	5	3	1	2	2	3	37
Nettlestead	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3
Otham	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	6
Staplehurst	5	-	3	2	1	-	2	2	4	3	3	5	30
Teston	1	1	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	2	1	1	11
Yalding	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	2	2	3	-	3	20
TOTALS	31	24	25	23	21	20	20	24	26	26	23	42	305

The parish of Linton contains a hospital of 326 beds, including 69 beds for Part III accommodation under the Kent County Council.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Your Senior Public Health Inspector has furnished the following details of work in his department during 1961.

As in previous years, it will be apparent from the report that much of the work of the department has been confined to dealing with routine matters and inspections. Once again, a considerable amount of time and work has been devoted to the supervision and inspection of Improvement Grant work carried out within the area.

During the year, an increased number of routine inspections have been carried out to factory and shop premises in an effort to maintain the present high standard of hygiene and facilities provided in connection with employees welfare.

Regular visits have been made to the established licenced caravan sites within the area to see that the conditions attached to the licences granted are being provided within the time limits specified. However, it has become noticeable during the year that one or two unauthorised caravan sites have become established, these sites catering mainly for the itinerant traveller. As a result of this occurrence your Inspectors have spent considerable time in visiting these sites with a view to the instigation of subsequent action requiring their removal.



## Water Supplies (continued)

The results of these samples taken showed no evidence of contamination and a typical sample result is shown below:-

### Bacteriological Examination

<u>Source</u>	<u>Probable numbers per 100 ml.</u>		
	<u>Coliform bacilli</u>	<u>Bact. coli</u>	<u>(type 1)</u>
Tap. Slaughterhouse, Stockett Lane, East Farleigh (Maidstone Water Co.)	None	None	None
Tap. Boormans, High Street, Staplehurst. (Mid Kent Water Co.)	None	None	None

The following table gives indication of (a) the number of dwelling-houses, (b) the number of the population supplied from public water mains and (c) by means of standpipes -

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Houses supplied</u> (a)	<u>Population</u> 4 persons/house (b)	<u>Houses served</u> by standpipes (estimated)
			(c)
Barming	216	864	-
Bearsted	1,141	4,564	-
Boughton Monchelsea	401	1,604	4
East Farleigh	652	2,608	-
West Farleigh	106	424	3
Hunton	211	844	-
Linton	411	1,644	4
Loose	618	1,472	10
Marden	860	3,440	-
Nettlestead	200	800	-
Otham	118	472	-
Staplehurst	652	2,608	8
Teston	209	836	-
Yalding	822	3,288	-

### Scavenging

The refuse collection service is operated by the Engineer and Surveyor and at present results in a fortnightly collection of refuse. Shortly before the summer a proposal was placed before the Council that a more frequent collection of refuse should be attempted in respect of food shops, cafes, etc. This additional service was agreed and a weekly collection was carried out from the premises previously mentioned, the service itself terminating on the 31st October, 1961. During its operation, several shop-keepers expressed their gratitude and enquired whether or not the service could be continued regularly throughout the year.

The refuse tips continue to give considerable concern in respect of rodent infestation. However, routine and regular treatments have resulted in infestations being kept to a minimum.



### Drainage and Sanitation

Further progress continues to be made by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department in connection with the proposed sewerage schemes connected with Boughton Monchelsea and Laddingford. It has become apparent during this year that the increase in residential development within the parishes of Bearsted, Marden and Staplehurst is creating difficulties at the various sewage works. As a result of such difficulties, the Council is giving urgent consideration to the possible modification of these sewage works to deal with the problems which have arisen.

### Rivers and Streams

Pollution still occurs in the various waterways within the area and can be attributed to overflowing cesspools and direct discharge of sewage from some parishes. Proposed sewerage schemes for the parishes concerned will, on completion, obviate the main sources of pollution.



## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

### HOUSING

Number of houses surveyed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	280
Number of revisits to houses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	620
Number of drains inspected ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	186
Number of revisits to drains ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	247
Visits re Overcrowding ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of visits made under the Housing Acts ..	..	..					143

### FOOD AND WATER

Number of Slaughterhouse and meat inspections ..	..	..	509
Number of visits re Water Supplies ..	..	..	32
Number of visits re Milk and Dairies ..	..	..	..
Number of visits re Food and Drugs Act ..	..	..	298
Sampling visits made under the Food and Drugs Act ..			66

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of visits re Infectious Diseases ..	..	..	..	46
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### GENERAL

Enterovirus Survey visits ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	97
Accumulations ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Keeping of Animals ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
House vans and Camping Sites ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Hop Pickers' Camps ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	123
Factories Act ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
Shops Act ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	342
Rodent Control ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	331
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	638
Total ..	..	..	..				4,225



### Comparison of Summary figures with 1960

The overall number of visits and inspections carried out within the district have increased in excess of 400.

It is apparent, however, that the number of houses surveyed under the Housing Act have reduced somewhat, this being due to the fact that the majority of slum clearance properties within the area had been dealt with during the previous year. Where visits under the Housing Acts, such as drainage inspections and normal visits, have increased, this can be attributed to the considerable amount of supervision required in Improvement Grant operations.

It will also be apparent from the summary that an increased number of visits have been carried out in relation to obtaining water supply samples and milk and ice cream samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act. These extra visit have resulted in a closer supervision of food and shop premises and consequently a general improvement to some individual premises.

Efforts have been made to increase the routine visits to factories and shops, with the prime object of maintaining the reasonable standards which exist at premises and, where necessary, recommending modifications to improve premises.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 which became operative in August, 1960, has necessitated a considerable amount of additional visits and time being spent with the owners or proprietors of the licenced caravan sites within this area.

Visits made in connection with Infectious Diseases have dropped considerably and compare favourably with the national average.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

## HOUSING

## HOUSING DEFECTS DEALT WITH BY NOTICES

Walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Rising and penetrating dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Repairs to external walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Repair to defective windows and doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Chimney stacks repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
General repairs to roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Provision for fuel storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Repairs to staircases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Repairs to fireplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cooking facilities provided and/or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Repointing to brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Repair or replacement of floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Provision of permanent ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Provision of adequate lighting	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Enlargement of window areas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Provision of dustbin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

## DRAINAGE

## NUISANCES

Cleansing of verminous premises .. .. .. .. .. ..	1
Removal of offensive accumulation .. .. .. .. ..	1



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits made by Inspectors .. .. .. .. .. ..	46
Reports made to M.O.H. on cases of infectious diseases:-	

Scarlet Fever .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	13
Poliomyelitis .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	0
Food Poisoning .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	1
Suspected Food Poisoning .. .. .. .. ..	1
Suspected Diphtheria .. .. .. .. .. ..	1

During 1961, notification was received that a member of a Yalding family was a confirmed case of food poisoning. In this particular case, bacteriological samples were obtained from all the members of the family in question until such time as clearance could be given. In actual fact, this resulted in a total number of 56 visits to collect samples and an equal number of visits to the Public Health Laboratory to deliver the samples concerned. This does give some indication of how much work may be involved with an isolated case such as this.

## Enterovirus Survey

Visits made by Inspectors .. .. .. .. .. ..	97
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During the year, a request was received from the Public Health Laboratory Service for co-operation in obtaining samples from children within the age groups 0 - 5 in connection with research being carried out at the laboratory. In all, some 97 visits were made in this connection and the general public have proved most co-operative.

## MISCELLANEOUS VISITS

1. During the year, 638 visits were classified as Miscellaneous. These are broken down approximately under the following main headings:-

No access .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	139
Litter Bins .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	9
Dirty premises visited .. .. .. .. .. ..	15
Refuse disposal .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	118
Interviews with Builders, Architects, Owners, etc. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	223
National Assistance Act .. .. .. .. .. ..	24
Collection and delivery of samples to the Public Health Laboratory .. .. .. ..	56
Meetings .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	5
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare) Provisions Act .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	3
Sewage Works .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	2
Miscellaneous .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	32
Noise nuisances .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	3
Smell nuisances .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	9
2. No access .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
3. Litter Bins .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
4. Dirty premises visited .. .. .. .. .. ..
5. Refuse disposal .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
6. Interviews with Builders, Architects,  
Owners, etc. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
7. National Assistance Act .. .. .. .. .. ..
8. Collection and delivery of samples to  
the Public Health Laboratory .. .. .. ..
9. Meetings .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
10. Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare)  
Provisions Act .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
11. Sewage Works .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
12. Miscellaneous .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
13. Noise nuisances .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..
14. Smell nuisances .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..



## FACTORIES AND WORK PLACES

Factories with mechanical power .. .. .. .. .. ..	68
Factories without mechanical power .. .. .. .. .. ..	4
Inspections of Factories with mechanical power .. ..	85
Inspections of Factories without mechanical power ..	5
Inspections of Builders' sites for Sanitary .. ..	..
Accommodation ..	4
Inspections of closed Factory premises or premises with no employees .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	6
Factories with mechanical power -	
Informal Notices served .. .. ..	12
Factories with mechanical power -	
Informal Notices completed .. ..	1
Statutory Notices served .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	0

Once again, each of the factory premises within the area have been visited at least once during the year and it is apparent from the above figures that twelve informal notices have been served. In each of these cases, the defects were relatively minor and it is not anticipated that any further action will be required to ensure compliance.

Where considered necessary, visits have been made to Cutworkers premises and in no instances have unsatisfactory conditions been found.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
 IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1961  
 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MAIDSTONE  
 IN THE COUNTY OF KENT

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
 of the Factories Act, 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	4	5	-	-
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	68	85	12	-
(iii)	Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. .. .. ..	4	4	-	-
	Total .. .. ..	76	94	12	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-



Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) -					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	2	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	6	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	5	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Total ... ..	13	2	-	1	-



## PART VIII OF THE ACT

## Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel	4	-	-	-	-	-
) Cleaning						
) and						
) Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						



## PART VIII OF THE ACT (Continued)

## Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Racquet and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	1	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons etc			NIL			
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	-	-	-	-	-



## HOUSING

The following information regarding housing in the Rural District is set out in the form asked for by the Ministry of Health.



C.	Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. ..	2
2.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. ..	2
D.	Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	30
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	11

IV Housing Act, 1957, Part 4 Overcrowding.

A(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	14
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein .. ..	16
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein .. ..	74
B(1)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. .. .. .. .. ..	7
C(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. .. .. .. ..	5
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	27
D	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .. .. ..	0



SUMMARY OF ACTION ON 1961/62 SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

Parish	Houses Requiring action	Action taken			Families re-housed
		Demolition Orders	Closing Orders	Repaired	
Barming	0	0	0	0	0
Bearsted	2	0	2	0	1
Boughton Monchelsea	2	0	2	0	0
East Farleigh	0	0	0	2	4
West Farleigh	3	1	2	0	0
Hunton	3	0	3	0	1
Linton	0	0	0	0	0
Loose	5	0	5	3	0
Marden	2	0	2	2	2
Nettlestead	2	0	2	0	0
Otham	0	0	0	0	0
Staplehurst	6	1	5	0	0
Teston	4	0	4	0	1
Yalding	3	0	3	1	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>

During the year of 1961, the Council's Slum Clearance Programme has proceeded satisfactorily. The figures indicate, within close limits, a similar number of properties dealt with during the previous year. It is, however, apparent that a reversal has taken place with the final action taken in respect of slum clearance properties inasmuch as only two properties were served with Demolition Orders and the remainder with Closing Orders. Ultimately, it is expected that the properties having Closing Orders on them will subsequently be completely repaired and, once again, provide housing accommodation within the district for a considerable number of years to come.



## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

## DISCRETIONARY

Number of applications approved in 1961 .. .. .. ..	21
Number of applications not approved .. .. .. ..	0
Number of houses involved in approved applications ..	22
Amount of Grants paid during 1961 .. .. .. ..	£9,128
Number of Grants completed during 1961 .. .. .. ..	29

STANDARD

Number of applications approved in 1961 .. .. .. ..	26
Number of applications not approved .. .. .. ..	0
Number of houses involved in approved applications ..	26
Amount of Grants paid during 1961 .. .. .. ..	£2,560
Number of Grants completed during 1961 .. .. .. ..	29

Comparing this year's figures with those of last year, it is apparent that the public's interest has been maintained and encouraged in respect of applications. The number of Discretionary Grant applications has been reduced by two, whilst the Standard Grant applications show an increase of five over the year. It is expected that next year the number of Standard Grant applications will show a marked increase as opposed to Discretionary Grants, the reason for this being due in some respect to the comparative ease with which a Standard Grant application may be approved and the modification of the Council's policy in respect of the amount of Grant payable on Discretionary Grant applications.

A check on the applications completed during 1961 shows that 50% of the applications have related to farm workers' premises and the majority of the remaining 50% were owner/occupiers.

General Statistics regarding Improvement  
Grants made by this Council

Total amount approved by the Council up to the  
 31st December, 1961 - Discretionary Grants .. .. £50,684  
 Standard Grants .. .. .. £10,905  
 Total .. .. .. .. .. £61,589

Note:-

This total sum of £92,480 includes interest and stems from the original grant of £61,589.

Approved cost to owners of premises improved,  
 less grant .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. £90,710  
 Number of properties assisted in modernisation .. 278



CAMPING SITES AND CARAVANS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Proprietor or Owner</u>	<u>Maximum No. of Caravans</u>
Enterprise Camping Site, East Farleigh	Mr. E. L. Paine.	25
Hartridge Farm Site, East Farleigh	Mr. K. A. and Mrs. M.R.G. Chambers.	46 - 110
The Retreat, Nettlestead.	Mr. P. Lamb.	60

Caravan Sites for Seasonal Use only

Enterprise Camping Site, East Farleigh.	Mr. E. L. Paine.	15
Medway Wharf Site, Nettlestead.	Mr. W. Nunn, Medway Wharf Ltd.	10
Twyford Boat Yard Site, Yalding.	Mr. D. S. Chuter, 102, Blithdale Road, Abbey Wood, S.E.2.	18
Hampstead Cottage Farm Site, Yalding.	Mr. F. O'Reilly.	10

Summary of data

Number of inspections ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Number of licenced sites ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Number of licenced caravans ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Applications for licences ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Applications for licences refused ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

Following the issue of Site Licences, in accordance with the new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, in respect of the above sites, the owners have been busy throughout the year in providing some of the amenities required. It is expected that all the works required will be carried out within the time limit specified and several of the caravan occupants have expressed satisfaction with the improvements so far made and expected under the conditions attached to the Licences.



### HOP PICKERS' CAMPS

Total number of Hop Pickers' Camps in use .. .. .. ..	60
Number of huts in use (estimated) .. .. .. .. ..	1,000 + 50 caravans
Estimated number of pickers .. .. .. .. .. ..	3,150
Number of Inspections .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	123

The hop picking season this year has been a relatively short one, the exceptions being the few farmers within this area who still carry out picking by hand. Inspections this year involved visiting some 52 farms and approximately 60 individual camps. Almost without exception, only part of the camps were used to provide accommodation for the hop pickers. Estimates this year reveal that approximately 3,150 pickers were employed: it is quite apparent that this is a drastic reduction on the estimated annual influx of 30,000 to be expected in the past.

Each camp was visited at least once during the season and further visits were made throughout the year to ensure that the camps are not occupied out of season.

During this year's survey, it was noted that the practice of hop pickers providing their own living accommodation in the form of caravans had increased somewhat, there being approximately 50 caravans sited on various farms.

There were no reported cases of infectious diseases during the season within any of the hop camps. This is, no doubt, due to the considerable reduction in the number of pickers and the fact that there was no necessity for pickers to overcrowd their accommodation.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food premises in the District

Cafes and Restaurants .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	12
Food Shops (excluding butchers) .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	87
Dairies .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	9
Butchers' Shops .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	16
Licenced Premises .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	<u>58</u>
<b>Total</b> .. .. .. ..	<b>182</b>

### Number of Visits and Inspections

Normal routine visits have been made throughout the year to food premises within the area and as in previous years each shop has been visited and inspected at least once. Personal contact with the shop keepers has maintained a high standard of hygiene and cleanliness throughout the area without the necessity of resorting to any legal action.

During the year, four complaints were made to the department concerning foreign bodies in the following articles - a loaf, a cake, a meat pie and a can of blackberries and apple. In each case the complaint was fully investigated with the shop keeper or manufacturer concerned and the results of such investigations reported to the Public Health Committee. On consideration of the facts available, it was decided that no legal action was warranted, nevertheless, warning letters were sent to the offenders in each particular case. One further point of interest - further examination of the previously mentioned complaints indicates that in only one instance were the manufacturers within the area of this local authority.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF SHOPS

Number of Shops (including Public Houses) .. .. .. .. 218  
Number of Inspections of Shops (including Public Houses) 362

During the year 1961, 362 inspections were made of shops within the district.

In no instance was it found necessary to take statutory proceedings against the occupants of any shops for contraventions of the Shops Act and no representations were received from any organisation.

Each of the 160 shops within the district have, therefore, been inspected at least twice during the course of the year.



## MILK SUPPLIES

### Examination of Milk Samples (Bacteriological)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of samples examined</u>	<u>No. found unsatisfactory</u>
Sterilised	10	0
Tuberculin Tested	1	0
Pasteurised	15	1
	26	1

No. of registered distributors .. .. .. 35

No. of registered dairies .. .. .. .. 9

26 samples were taken during the year and with the exception of one sample, all samples taken were found to be satisfactory. In the isolated unsatisfactory case, follow-up samples proved satisfactory and, therefore, no further action was deemed necessary.

As indicated in last year's Report, samples are now taken throughout the area by the Kent County Council and it has been decided, in view of such circumstances, that the number of samples taken by this Authority should be reduced considerably, the reason being to avoid possible duplication of sampling at various premises. Nevertheless, occasional samples will be obtained by your Inspectors in order to maintain a check on the standards of such premises within the area.



### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of licenced slaughterhouses (up to 30.9.61.) .. ..	5
Number of licenced slaughterhouses (from 1.10.61. to 31.12.61.) .. .. ..	3
Number of premises cleansed during the year .. .. .. ..	3

### MEAT INSPECTION

<u>Slaughterhouse</u>	<u>No. of carcases slaughtered</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
West End, Marden .. .. .. ..	846	54.5
High Street, Staplehurst .. ..	472	30.4
High Street, Marden .. .. ..	221	14.2
Stockett Lane, East Farleigh ..	13	0.9
<b>Total .. .. ..</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Total carcases examined

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	468	821	17	2	244	1,552
No. passed	402	797	16	1	216	1,432
Completely condemned	0	1	1	0	0	2
Partially condemned	66	23	0	1	28	118

### Tuberculosis

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	468	821	17	2	244	1,552
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	6	0	0	0	1	7

### Other Diseases

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	468	821	17	2	244	1,552
Completely condemned	0	1	1	0	0	2
Partially condemned	60	23	0	1	27	111



## MEAT INSPECTION

There has been a reduction of approximately 200 carcases examined during this year. The reason for this being due to the fact that one slaughterhouse ceased to operate during the early part of the year. Nevertheless, 100% inspection of all the meat slaughtered within the Rural District and the established good relations between slaughterhouse owners and your officers has been maintained.

The amount of meat and offal condemned compares favourably with the previous years. There is, however, an indication that the number of carcases infected with parasitic conditions of the lungs and liver has decreased slightly, whilst detected cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* in cattle has increased somewhat.

In accordance with the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the slaughterhouse owners involved have been pressed throughout the year to carry out the improvements and modifications necessary under the above Act to their premises. At the close of the year, it was apparent that only two of the original five slaughterhouses were to meet the requirements laid down by this Council under the conditions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958. As a result of this, the remaining three slaughterhouses will not be re-licenced during the forthcoming year.

## Diseases of Animals (Waste Food Order), 1957

There are 10 registered plants within the area for the treatment of waste foods to be fed to animals. No new applications were received during this year. Wherever possible additional routine visits were made throughout the year to ensure that operators met their obligations under the above Order.



SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN DETAIL

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine
High Street, Staplehurst -					
No. examined	201	176	0	0	95
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	21	9	0	0	5
High Street, Marden -					
No. examined	112	58	1	0	50
Completely condemned	0	1	0	0	0
Partially condemned	20	3	0	0	8
West End, Marden -					
No. examined	145	587	15	0	99
Completely condemned	0	0	1	0	0
Partially condemned	24	11	0	0	15
Stockett Lane, East Farleigh -					
No. examined	10	0	1	2	0
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	1	0	0	1	0



MEAT INSPECTION

Reason for Condemnation

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Completely condemned</u>	<u>Partially condemned</u>
Tuberculosis	0	7
Abscesses	0	15
Pleurisy	0	7
Ascaris Lumbricoides	0	0
Nephritis	0	1
Pneumonia	0	12
Pericarditis	0	5
Parasitic infection	0	19
Actino-bacillosis	0	2
Cirrhosis	0	12
Pyaemia	1	0
Cysticercus Bovis	0	7
Blood Splashing	0	1
Peritonitis	0	3
Congestion	0	18
Mastitis	0	1
Bruising	0	3
Arthritis	0	9
Liver Fluke	0	4
Wounds and swellings	0	1
Decomposition	0	1
Milk spot	0	4
Fever and jaundice	1	0

The incidence of Tuberculosis in carcases has again decreased slightly. In each case the infections detected were confined to pigs and found to be of the avian variety. A considerable reduction in parasitic infection of lungs and cirrhosis of the liver has been apparent, this would appear to indicate the possibility of improved animal husbandry.



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers  
within the MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT during the year  
ended 31st December, 1961.

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
Bile Beans .. .. .. .. ..	1
Bread .. .. .. .. ..	1
Bronchial Balsam .. .. .. .. ..	1
Bronchial Tablets .. .. .. .. ..	1
Butter .. .. .. .. ..	2
Cara-Mellos Caramel Flavoured Cereal .. ..	1
Cheese Spread with Mushroom .. .. ..	1
Chippy Real Fruit Juice, Apple and Apricot .. ..	1
Chocolate Flavoured Drink .. .. ..	1
Cider .. .. .. .. ..	2
Coffee Sugar .. .. .. .. ..	1
Crab and Lobster Fish Paste .. .. ..	1
Danish Luncheon Meat .. .. .. .. ..	1
Demerara Sugar .. .. .. .. ..	1
Elasto Tablets - Standard .. .. ..	1
Gin .. .. .. .. ..	2
Glycerine, Lemon and Honey .. .. ..	1
Granulated Sugar .. .. .. .. ..	2
Limmits .. .. .. .. ..	1
Margarine .. .. .. .. ..	1
Milks .. .. .. .. ..	25
Milk Chocolate Cream Egg .. .. ..	1
Minced Beef in Gravy .. .. .. ..	1
Orange Drink .. .. .. .. ..	1
Oxtail Flavour Soup .. .. .. ..	1
Pink Salmon .. .. .. .. ..	1
Pilchards in Tomato .. .. .. .. ..	1
Pork Chipolatas .. .. .. .. ..	1
Pork Sausages .. .. .. .. ..	1
Pure American Lard .. .. .. .. ..	1
Pure Lemon Juice .. .. .. .. ..	1
Pure Malt Vinegar .. .. .. .. ..	1
Raspberries in Heavy Syrup .. .. ..	2
Real Minced Chicken in Jelly .. .. ..	1
Seed Sago .. .. .. .. ..	1
Slimbread .. .. .. .. ..	1
Soluble Saccharin .. .. .. .. ..	1
Tablets of Aspirin B.P.C. .. .. .. ..	1
Tenda Steaks .. .. .. .. ..	1
Whisky .. .. .. .. ..	<u>2</u>
<u>Total</u> .. ..	<u>70</u>

Summary

Milks .. ..	25
Drugs .. ..	6
Spirits .. ..	4
Other Samples ..	<u>35</u>

70

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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 (continued)

All of the samples taken were genuine with the exception of the following:-

<u>Samples of</u>	<u>Analyses</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Slimbread	Fat 5.4%: Nitrogen 11.6%: Carbohydrate 63.3%: Calories per slice 14 not 12 as stated.	The calories per slice were given as 12 but, as the accuracy of this depended on the thickness of the slice, the makers agreed to dis-continue the claim.
Bread	A discolouration was due to a pigment probably used in a coloured icing.	The maker was warned.



ICE CREAM

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test Group</u>	<u>Pathogenic organisms cultivated</u>
31	I	0
8	II	0
1	III	0
0	IV	0

Regular sampling of ice cream sold within your area has been carried out during the year and with the exception of one sample, all were found to be of a satisfactory standard. In the case of the one unsatisfactory sample follow-up samples were taken from the same premises and these samples proved to be satisfactory.

As in previous years, attempts were made to secure at least one sample from each of the registered premises within the district and the overall results indicate a continuance of the satisfactory methods of storing ice cream for sale.



RODENT CONTROL

Summary of Inspections and Surveys made under Rodent Control

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Other (incl. Business Premises)	Total
Total number of properties in Local Authority's area	11	6,520	206	602	7,339
Number of properties inspected as a result of Notification	0	487	9	20	516
Number of properties inspected as a result of Survey or otherwise	11	8	38	316	373
Total number of inspections and re-inspections carried out	201	1,994	461	316	2,972
Number of properties inspected found to be infested by:-	Rats	444	45	29	528
	Mice	40	2	6	48
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority (completed)	10	484	46	35	575
Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments (completed)	50	654	123	91	918
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out		67			

This year has again been a difficult one in relation to rodent infestation. A further increase in the total number of visits made by your Rodent Operator in 1961 has increased by some 301 visits over the last year. Persistent infestation of the refuse tip has necessitated extensive and continual treatment throughout the year; however, at the close of the year this particular problem had been reduced to a minimum and it is hoped that this situation will continue to be effected.

During 1961, a survey and test treatments were carried out in the sewers within the various parishes served by main drainage. Results of this test-baiting were most encouraging and in only two isolated manholes was it found that bait had in fact been disturbed.



RODENT CONTROL (continued)

It was noticed during the year that there was a considerable increase in the number of complaints received from the occupiers of dwelling-houses. The Contract system continues to operate satisfactorily and at the present time amounts to 41 agreements involving some 51 properties. These general increases have necessitated considerable effort on the part of the Rodent Operator in the carrying out of his duty to the satisfaction of all concerned. Nevertheless, such satisfaction has been achieved by Mr. Curties carrying out some of his work on Saturdays and I should like to record appreciation of his efforts and the enthusiastic manner in which he has carried out his duties.



Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year

Area	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000		
			Live Births	Related Births	Still Births
England and Wales	17.4 (P)	12.0	.06(P)	.49(P)	1.67(P)
Hollingbourne R.D.	14.60	11.31	.05	.40	1.92
Maidstone R.D.	14.49	10.67	—	.85	1.75
Malling R.D.	19.60	10.89	.22	.57	1.36
Maidstone Borough	16.17	11.98	.18	.46	1.41
County of Kent	16.30*	12.19*	.08	.53	1.70
					20.02
					18.22

(P) - Provisional Rates

\* - Crude Rates



GENERAL SUMMARY

Estimated resident population, 1961	..	..	..	19,990
Area (in acres)	..	..	..	34,487
Density (persons per acre)	..	..	..	.579
Annual Birth rate per 1,000 population -				
crude	..	..	..	14.35
corrected	..	..	..	14.49
Annual Death rate per 1,000 population -				
crude	..	..	..	15.25
corrected	..	..	..	10.67
		Male	Female	Total
Births	..	..	149	138
Deaths	..	..	171	134
Excess of deaths over births	..	..	..	18
Tuberculosis death rate -				
Pulmonary	..	..	..	Nil
Non-pulmonary	..	..	..	Nil
Cancer death rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	2.51



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